WESTHAMPNETT RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

A. S. BOSTOCK,
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

NORTH PALLANT,
CHICHESTER.

9 Feb: 1904.

Gentlemen

The last year has been all over England a very wet one, and ~~has~~ yet we can say it has been a healthy year. The one trouble that has arisen from so much wet is that the ground has been so saturated that some of the cesspools have leaked into the wells. The wells having been so contaminated makes me stronger in recommending earth closets — which I consider far the best for country districts. For the emptying of the cesspools I still recommend a Merry weather pump, which would soon pay for itself and also be a means of revenue to the sanitary authority. My two great grievances are the fouling of the Chichester Harbour and the Chichester canal; from the Chichester Sewage Works into the harbour and the Chichester Drains into the canal. I have brought this before you now for some considerable time and I again repeat that it was a pity more consideration was not given to the fishermans words when they said "Anything put into the Harbour would never get out." This remark was laughed at, but it is a very serious coincidence. The works have proved a very expensive experiment, and I think these experiments should be carried out in the Corporations own precincts The flow from the Lavant has been so much increased this last year that I wish my suggestion to have three sluice gates had been entertained

much for the two gales, and I have been greatly perturbed for fear of Chichester being again flooded as it was before the Apuldram cutting was made. Now that the water is rising I am still afraid of trouble coming to Chichester.
The death rate is small ~~7~~ 10.4 per 1000. And when the accidents due to drowning and other causes come to nine — and the number over sixty five and upwards sixty six out of one hundred and forty the health of the district had not been bad. There were two suicides and only one case of Enteric Fever. Infantile Diarrhea was nil.
Premature births numbered six
I have given immediate attention to the cases of Notifiable diseases as they have arisen and especial care has been taken with regard to over crowding. This is a great subject as families multiply but the house cannot be enlarged as easily as the family increases.
The number of births was three hundred and forty.
Other districts have a low death rate so I am glad that our district can show a proportionate rate.
I append the work done by the Inspector of Nuisances.

I remain
Yr. obedient Servant
A S Bostock
M. O. H